

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

IOWA HISTORIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA



Preservation Awards Announced

From an archaeological site in Woodbury County to a historic school in Davenport, **11 projects in seven communities were honored with Iowa's highest awards for historic preservation** during the 2021 Preserve Iowa Summit. The State Historical Society of Iowa Board of Trustees awarded six projects, while the nonprofit group Preservation Iowa presented five awards.

During the awards ceremony, the board of trustees honored two projects in Des Moines and two more in Davenport, as well as successful efforts to stabilize a prehistoric site on the Little Sioux River near Anthon and to rehabilitate historic facades on the Winterset square (pictured above).

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Excellence in History Awards

The State Historical Society of Iowa announced the state's highest awards for history, including a **lifetime achievement award for sisters Bonnie Smola of Monona and Donna Story of Hawkeye** (pictured, at Montauk) and their late husbands, **John Smola and Steve Story**.

The Smolas and Storys received the Petersen-Harlan Lifetime Achievement Award for their work across five decades to preserve and promote Iowa history, including the successful pursuit of a Save America's Treasures grant to conserve and revitalize the 1896 pipe organ at the Union Sunday School in Clermont.



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Research Centers Reopen by Appointment



The State Historical Library & Archives Research Centers in Iowa City and Des Moines have **reopened for in-person visits by appointment only on Thursdays and Fridays**. Schedule your next visit for access to 209 million historic documents, photographs, newspapers and more from our vast collections.

Pictured: The staff at the Research Center in Iowa City.

[SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT](#)



Museum Opens Donna Reed Display

As part of our year-long effort to honor Denison native Donna Reed, five of her dresses and a romper are on display in a new exhibition, "**A Wonderful Life From Crawford County to California**," at the State Historical Museum of Iowa. The dresses are on loan from the Donna Reed Foundation for the Performing Arts in Denison. Reed was born on Jan. 27, 1921, and rose to fame in Hollywood where she made her mark as Mary Hatch Bailey in "**It's a Wonderful Life**" (1946) and in her Academy Award-winning role as Alma in "**From Here to Eternity**" (1953).

[LEARN MORE ABOUT EXHIBITS](#)

Coming Up in Iowa History 101

Join the thousands of Iowans who have tuned in online for the [Iowa History 101](#) and [Iowa Stories](#) webinars this year, during Iowa's 175th Anniversary. You can watch two new programs this month or [catch up on recordings of previous webinars](#).

Iowa History 101 **[Iowa's County Fairs](#)** **June 24**

Join Leo Landis, the state curator for the State Historical Society of Iowa, as he discusses the history and heritage of Iowa's beloved county fairs.



REGISTER

Iowa Stories

Iowa Women's Corrections

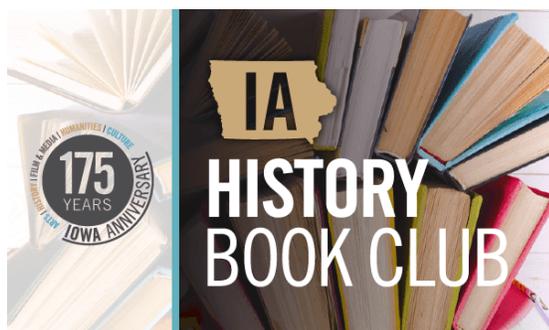
June 24

In the nearly 170 years since the first woman arrived at Iowa's oldest penitentiary, in Fort Madison, women and juvenile females have been held in some of Iowa's most well-known facilities. Join Erica Spiller for this discussion about Iowa's prison history.



REGISTER

Join the Iowa History Book Club



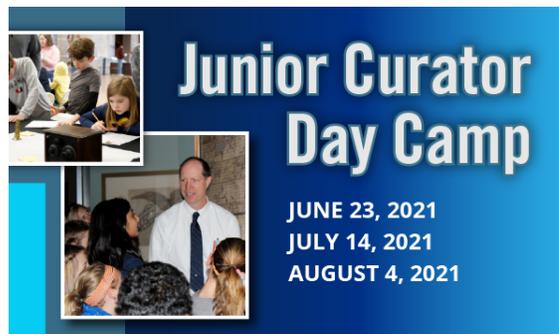
Take a deep dive into Iowa history by joining the new statewide Iowa History Book Club, with quarterly online discussions led by guest scholars and Andrew Klumpp, the editor of The Annals of Iowa.

The next discussion is set for 7 p.m. Sept. 9 with a look at "**The Sacred Cause of Union: Iowa and the Civil War**" by Thomas R. Baker.

REGISTER IN ADVANCE

Junior Curator Day Camp

Do you have an aspiring curator in the house? Well then, sign them up for Junior Curator Day Camp! Participants get to explore the State Historical Museum of Iowa, examine historical artifacts, practice historical research and learn skills they can apply to school and future careers.

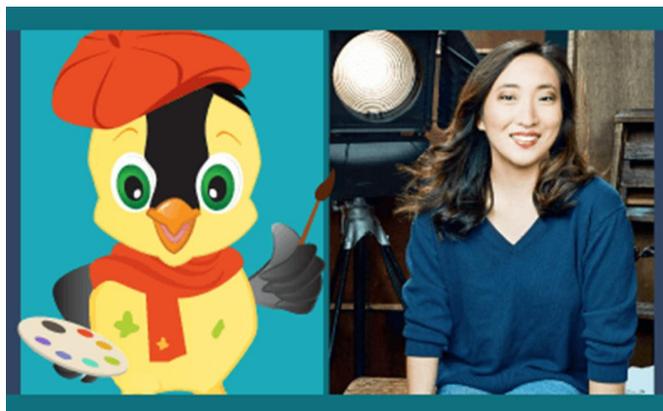


Junior Curator Day Camp is for students entering 4th-6th grades and gives them opportunities to learn about museums and the role of curators. The camps will be offered June 23, July 14 or Aug. 4.

LEARN MORE

Walt Disney Animator To Visit Goldie's Kids Club

Join Goldie's Kids Club at 1 p.m. July 24 for a special summer art program with **Kendra Vander Vliet** (pictured), a **layout artist at Walt Disney Animation Studios who grew up in Sheldon, Iowa.** Kendra has worked on numerous Disney films and shorts including: "Frozen," "Feast," "Big Hero 6," "Zootopia," "Moana," "Olaf's Frozen Adventure," "Ralph Breaks the Internet," "Frozen 2," and "Raya and the Last Dragon." Vander Vliet will share her design inspiration, demonstrate 3D character models and share behind-the-scenes information via Zoom. Virtual attendance is complimentary for all participants.



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Ready for Your Close-Up?